A RELATION *of the Great and Glorious Succeſs of the Fleet and Forces of Her Majeſty and the States General at* Vigo: *The Land Forces being under the Command of his Grace the Duke of* Ormond, *and the Fleet Commanded by Sir* George Rooke.

Publiſhed by Authority.

From Vigo, October 16. 1702.

CAptain *Hardy*, Commander of Her Majeſty's Ship the *Pembroke*, having been detached with ſome other Ships by Sir *George Rooke*, and ſent into *Lagos*, he there got Intelligence, That Monſieur *Chateaurenaud*, with the *French* Men of War and the *Spaniſh* Flota, was arrived at *Vigo*: Whereupon he made all poſſible haſte to rejoin the Fleet, and traverſing 40 Leagues, overtook the Admiral on the 6th of *October*, and gave him an Account of this News; who with great Joy declared his Opinion to proceed directly to *Vigo*, and ſent Notice of it immediately to the *Dutch* Admiral; and the next day, the Weather being ſomewhat more moderate than it had been the day before, he call'd a Council of the Flag-Officers, and came to this Reſolution, That conſidering the Attempting and Deſtroying thoſe Ships would be of the greateſt Advantage and Honour to Her Majeſty and Her Allies, and very much tend to the Reducing the Power of *France*, the Fleet ſhould make the beſt of its way to the Port of *Vigo*, and inſult them immediately with the whole Line, in caſe there were room enough for it; if not, by ſuch Detachments as might render the Attempt moſt effectual.

This being reſolved, Orders were given accordingly for ſailing thither with all ſpeed; but the Winds being contrary and uncertain, it was the 11th of that month before the Fleet could poſſibly gain that Port. The entring into it was with great difficulty, but perform'd without any ill Accident.

The Weather was ſo thick, that the Fleet was not diſcovered by the Town of *Vigo*, till they came upon it; and though they then fired thick from thence, the Fleet, without taking any Notice of it, proceeded up the Harbour within Three or Four Miles of *Redondello*, where the *French* Fleet and Galleons lay within a narrow Paſſage, thinking they had ſufficiently ſecured themſelves by the Caſtle on one ſide, and Platforms on both ſides of the River, planted with their beſt Guns to Flank the Entrance; which was defended alſo by a ſtrong Boom they had laid croſs it, made of their Maſts, Yards, Cables, Top-Chains and Casks.

The Fleet coming to an Anchor, the Admiral called a Council of the General Sea and Land Officers, who came to this Reſolution, That in regard the whole Fleet could not, without great Hazard of being in a Huddle, attempt the Ships and Galleons where they were, a Detachment of *Engliſh*, and 10 *Dutch* Ships of the Line of Battel, with all the Fireſhips, ſhould be ſent to uſe their beſt Endeavours to Take or Deſtroy the aforeſaid Ships of the Enemy; and that the Frigats and Bomb-Veſſels ſhould follow the Rear of the Fleet, and the great Ships move after them, to ſee if their ſhould be occaſion.

It was alſo reſolved, that the Army ſhould Land the next morning, and march to the Fort on the South-ſide of *Redondello*, and Attack it; and from thence where it ſhould be moſt uſeful for the annoying of the Enemy. But in regard it was not known what depth of Water there might be, it was thought moſt adviſable to make the Attempt with the ſmalleſt Ships; and to give the better Countenance to the Service, it was reſolved, That all the Flag-Officers ſhould go in with the Squadron.

Purſuant to this Reſolution, his Grace the Duke of *Ormond* landed with great Diligence and Expedition, with about 2000 Men on the South-ſide of the River, without any oppoſition, and ordered the Granadiers to march, under the Command of the Lord Viſcount *Shannon*, directly to the Fort that guards the Entrance of the Harbour where the Boom lay, which he performed with great Gallantry. There appeared about 8000 Foot between the Fort and the Hills, but upon our Men's advancing, they retired, after a little skirmiſhing with the Granadiers, who likewiſe puſhed a Party of the Enemy, and followed them to the Fort, and poſſeſſed themſelves of the upper Battery; whereupon Lieutenant-General *Churchil's* Regiment came upon the Left, and took Poſt there with them. After the Batteries were taken, the Enemy retired into an old Caſtle, or Stone Tower, and there fired upon our Men for ſome little time; but opening the Gate, and intending to make a Salley, as the Officers who are Priſoners ſay, the Granadiers forced into the Caſtle, and poſſeſſed themſelves of it. In this Fort there were 300 *French* Marines and 50 *Spaniards*, and 40 Guns.

At 9 a Clock in the morning, as ſoon as the Land Forces were landed, the Admiral made a Signal to weigh, which was accordingly done, the Line form'd, and the Squadron puſhing their Paſſage in upon the Enemy, but when the Van was got within Cannon-ſhot of the Batteries, it fell calm, ſo that they were forced to come to an Anchor again; but about 2 a clock, a Gale coming up the Ships next the Enemy cut their Cables, the reſt weighed, and running in upon the Enemy, received all their Fire till the Ships were got the length of the Boom. Vice-Admiral *Hopſon* in the *Tony*, broke through at once, but the reſt of his Diviſion, and Vice-Admiral *Vandergoes*, and his Diviſion, who went in a-breaſt to give the greater weight to the Boom, ſtuck, and were obliged to cut their way through.

The

The Attack was made with great Reſolution and Bravery; and the good Conduct of the Land Forces contributed much to the Succeſs, having contrived the Attack of the Fort juſt as the Ships, upon their coming to the Boom, poured in their Broadſides upon them, which obliged them in half a quarter of an hour to yield at Diſcretion.

The Duke of *Ormond*, as ſoon as this Service was over, marched away with the Forces to *Redondallo*; and 'tis ſaid that he, with the *Dutch*, have ſeized there a conſiderable quantity of Plate.

As ſoon as our Ships had paſſed the Boom, the Enemy, by the Example of Monſieur *Chateaurenaud*, ſet fire to and blew up ſeveral of their Ships, and run others of them aſhore: The Liſt annexed gives a full Account of what are burnt, ſunk, and taken; of all ſorts there were ſeven or eight and thirty Sail, and not one of them eſcaped being taken or deſtroyed.

There are 5 *French* Men of War in the *Engliſh* poſſeſſion, which the Admiral hopes to bring home.

The *Engliſh* have alſo 4 Galeons afloat and 2 aſhore; and if it be thought impracticable to bring any of them home, the Admiral will take care to ſecure their Effects for the Service of the Publick.

The *Dutch* have taken the *Bourbon*, a Man of War, but ſhe is not in a condition to be carried home, and they have likewiſe poſſeſſed themſelves of 5 of the Galeons.

There has been ſome Silver taken out of the bottoms of the Galeons that were burnt, which makes it be believed there may be a good quantity on board thoſe that are taken; at leaſt they are very rich in other valuable Goods, there having been little or nothing removed beſides ſome Plate, as the Officers who are taken do affirm.

We have not loſt one Ship in this Action, neither *Engliſh* nor *Dutch*. The *Torbay* had like to have been burnt by one of the Enemy's Fireſhips, who clapt her on board, and had certainly done the execution, had ſhe not blown up. The *Torbay* was all on Fire on one ſide, yet by the exemplary Bravery and Diligence of the Captain, it was extinguiſhed, and the Ship preſerved.

We have no particular Account of the Seamen killed or wounded in this Action; but in general, that we have loſt but very few.

Of the Landmen, Mr. *Ramſden*, Lieutenant of the Granadiers; a Lieutenant of my Lord *Shannon's*, and about 30 Soldiers killed: Colonel *Pierce*, who Commanded next to my Lord *Shannon*, and entred the Battery one of the firſt, was wounded with a Cannon-ſhot in the Thigh, but there is hopes he will recover; Mr *Talmaſh*, Colonel *Seymour*, Colonel *Newton*, wounded.

There are taken Priſoners, the Admiral of the *Aſſogna* Ships, Monſieur *d'Alligre Chef d'Eſcadre* Monſieur *le Marquis de Galiſonier e*, Captain of the *Hope*; with many other Officers, and 4 or 500 private Soldiers.

The Sea and Land Officers, and all the private Seamen and Soldiers, ſhewed in this Action all the Courage and Reſolution imaginable.

Colonel *Stanhope*, my Lord *Tunbridge*, and all the Voluntiers, behaved themſelves with great Bravery.

French *Ships in the Harbour of* Redondello.

Ships Names.	Captains Names.	N of Guns	
Le Fort	*Chateau Renault*	76	Burnt.
Le Prompte	*Beaujeu*	76	Taken, and will be carried home.
L'Aſſuré	*D'Aliere*	66	Taken, and will be carried home.
L'Eſperance	Marquis *Galliſoniere*	70	Taken, but run a-ſhoar and bilg'd, and ſunk.
Le Bourbon	Monſieur *Bolt*	68	Taken by the Dutch.
La Sirenne	Monſieur *Gon*	60	Taken, but run aſhoar and bilg'd.
Le Solide	*Chamelin*	56	Burnt.
Le Firme	*Boiſſier*	72	Taken, and will be carried home.
Le Prudent	*Grand Pré*	62	Burnt.
Le Modere	*L'Autier*	56	Taken, and will be carried home.
Le Superbe	*Botteville*	70	Taken, but run aſhoar and bilg'd
La Dauphine	*Dupleſis*	46	Burnt.
Le Voluntaire	*Soret*	46	Taken, but run aſhoar and bilg'd.
Le Triton	*De Counte*	42	Taken, and will be carried home.
L'Enflame	*Tricombault*	64	Burnt.
Frigats.			
L'Enterprenant	*Polignac*	22	Burnt.
Chequante	*St. Oſmen*	8	
Le Farois Fireſhip	*Deleſtallett*		Burnt.
3 Scouts			Burnt.

17 Galeons,
4 afloat } taken.
2 aſhore }
And 5 taken by the *Dutch*, the reſt burnt.

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